Appl. No.: 10/718,869
Amendment and Response

Docket No.: 085804.013100

REMARKS

Claims 1-15 are pending in the application, of which claims 1 and 13-15 are independent. Claims 1 and 13-15 have been amended. No new matter is presented. Support for the claim amendments are shown throughout the Specification, such as for example in Paragraphs [0032] and [0060]-[0061]. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested. In response to the finality of the Office Action, Applicant submits herewith a Request for Continued Examination.

Claims 1, 2, 6-8 and 10-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,662,194 (Joao) in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0147701 (Chang). Claims 3-5 were rejected under 35 § U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Joao in view of Chang and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,968,513 (Rinebold). Claim 9 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Joao in view of Chang and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,868,389 (Wilkins). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested for at least the following reasons.

According to the method recited in claim 1, inquiry data is received, the inquiry data is related to an inquiry of a user with a listing service about a listing posted by an entity other than the user. A user's lead is created in response to the user's inquiry using the received inquiry data, the user's lead is to be pursued by the user that makes the inquiry with the listing service. The user's lead is stored as a lead record in a database. Information related to the lead record that is received by the processor is monitored using text analysis tools, and using this received information, an action record is dynamically created each time an action to be taken in furtherance of the user's lead is identified. The lead and action records comprise information to provide the user with a status of the user's lead. A user interface is communicated to the user that comprises information from the lead and action records and information related to the user's lead received from one or more ancillary services. An alert is transmitted to the user, where the alert comprises information from the lead record and/or the action record.

Joao is understood to disclose an apparatus and method for providing job searching services, recruitment services and/or recruitment-related services for respective individuals, employees, independent contractors, freelancers, employers and/or hiring entities.

Chang describes a method for searching in multiple human resource hosts via a computer, wherein the computer comprises a user interface (UI) for accessing a search condition. The

Appl. No.: 10/718,869
Amendment and Response

Docket No.: 085804.013100

method begins with inputting the search conditions on the UI. Next, the search conditions are transmitted to the human resource hosts with each of the human resource hosts' data format retrieved from a server data format database in the computer. After that, each human resource host retrieves a search result according to the search conditions, and then posts the search result to the computer. Then the search result is stored in a found profile database of the computer and displayed in a UI. The method enables a user to register and search the suitable job seekers or position-vacant companies simultaneously in the multiple human resource hosts, instead of repeatedly inputting processes in different hosts.

Independent claim 1 recites, in part:

> using text analysis tools, monitoring information related to the lead record
> that is received by the processor;

Applicant respectfully submits that neither Joao nor Chang teach or suggest monitoring information related to a lead record using text analysis tools, as claimed. As a non-limiting example, Applicant's Specification states, in Paragraph [0032], that text analysis tools, such as keyword/key phrase and/or an address recognition method, may be used to identify emails related to stored lead records:

> [0032] Using the information stored in the lead record, the tracking system is capable of performing various functions to help the user track one or more leads. For example, if the user receives a lead related e-mail, the tracking system can be set to monitor the user's incoming e-mails to detect lead related e-mails. Using text analysis tools, such as keyword/key-phrase and/or an address recognition method, the tracking system identifies e-mails related to stored lead records, in step 108, and generates an action record using information in the lead related e-mail. The tracking system may be further programmed to notify the user of the e-mail, and may forward the all or a portion of the e-mail to a designated user device, such as the user's personal digital assistant (PDA). After creation of the action record, a user is given an opportunity to access the action record, in step 110, and supplement or edit the action record as necessary, in step 112. The updated action record is then stored on the leads database. (emphasis added).

Applicant respectfully submits that neither Joao nor Chang teach or suggest using text analysis tools to monitor information related to a lead record, as claimed.

Independent claim 1 also recites, in part:

> communicating a user interface accessible by the user that visibly displays information from the lead record, action record, and information related to the user's lead received from one or more ancillary services.

The Office Action states that Joao discloses this claim element (except the action record) at col. 23, lines 5-13 and Chang discloses displaying the action record at Paragraphs [0106] and [0181]. Col. 23, lines 5-13 of Joao state:

> Any data and/or information described as being transmitted between the parties, and/or between the respective computers, can be transmitted electronically, such as via e-mail, electronic message transmission, telephone call, telephone message, facsimile transmission, pager message, and/or physical mail delivery. The employer can review the data and/or information, at step 215, and transmit a response to the central processing computer 10 at step 216.

Thus, this passage of Joao describes transmitting information electronically, such as via e-mail, telephone message, etc. Joao also describes a display device (Fig. 3, element 20E). Applicant respectfully submits that this passage of Joao does not teach or suggest communicating a user interface that visibly displays information from the lead record, action record, and information related to the user's lead received from one or more ancillary services, as claimed. There is no user interface communicated in Joao that displays a lead record, an action record, and information related to the user's lead received from one or more ancillary services.

It is respectfully submitted that Chang does not cure the deficiencies of Joao. Paragraphs [0106] and [0181] of Chang describe a user accepting an interview time and adding this to a user's schedule. Applicant respectfully submits that these paragraphs of Chang do not teach or suggest communicating a user interface that visibly displays information from the lead record, the action record, and information related to the user's lead received from one or more ancillary services, as claimed. Chang describes displaying information such as search results on a user interface, but Chang does not disclose communicating a user interface that visibly displays information from the lead record, action record, and information related to the user's lead received from one or more ancillary services, as claimed. Neither Rinebold nor Wilkins cures the deficiencies of Joao and Chang.

Independent claim 1 also recites, in part:

> transmitting, by the processor, an alert to the user, the alert comprising information from a record selected from the group of records consisting of the lead record and the action record.

Appl. No.: 10/718,869
Amendment and Response

Docket No.: 085804.013100

Applicant respectfully submits that none of the cited references teach or suggest the above claim element. In particular, none of the cited references, alone or in combination, teach or suggest transmitting an alert to a user, where the alert comprises information from the lead record and/or the action record. Chang discloses scheduling an interview in schedule software based on a proposed interview time sent in an email from a sender, but Chang does not disclose transmitting an alert, where the alert includes information from a lead record and/or an action record.

For at least the foregoing reasons, claim 1 and the claims that depend from claim 1 are believed to be in condition for allowance. In addition, for at least the same reasons, claims 13-15 are believed to be in condition for allowance. In view of the foregoing, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

The Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. Should matters remain which the Examiner believes could be resolved in an interview, the Examiner is requested to telephone the Applicant's representative. The Applicants' attorney may be reached by telephone at 212-801-6729. All correspondence should continue to be directed to the address given below, which is the address associated with Customer Number 76058.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any required fee in connection with the submission of this paper, any additional fees which may be required, now or in the future, or credit any overpayment to Account No. 50-1561. Please ensure that the Attorney Docket Number is referenced when charging any payments or credits for this case.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 14, 2011

/James J. DeCarlo/
James J. DeCarlo
Reg. No. 36,120

Customer Number 76058
GREENBERG TRAURIG, LLP
Met Life Building
200 Park Avenue, 20th Floor
New York, New York 10166
Phone: (212) 801-9200
Fax: (212) 801-6400